

REMARKS

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 16-18, 22 and 31 USC 102(e).

In order to expedite the prosecution of this case, claims 19, 22 and 31 have been cancelled. Furthermore, claim 16 has been amended to include allowable subject matter, particularly the limitations of allowed dependent claim 19, allowed claim 20 has been amended to include the limitations of independent claim 16, and the limitations of claim 16 and intervening dependent claim 31 have been incorporated into allowed dependent claim 32. Claims 16, 20 and 32 (as well as their dependents) are therefore allowable as the Examiner indicated allowable subject matter in the outstanding Office Action.

Applicant believes that all pending claims 1, 4-6 and 9-18, 20-21, 23-30, and 32-38 are allowable and respectfully requests a Notice of Allowance for this application from the Examiner. Should the Examiner believe that a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, the undersigned can be reached at the telephone number set out below.

Moreover, although these claims have been amended or cancelled, the Applicant reserves the right to proceed with any claims of record in a continuing application if so desired.

Respectfully submitted,

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